

Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 R

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DRAFTED BY S/S:RKUCHEL:AM

APPROVED BY S/S:RKACHEL

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P 030135Z JAN 76 ZFF4

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TO USDEL SECRETARY PRIORITY

S E C R E T STATE 001363 TOSEC 250160

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FOLREPEAT ABIDJAN 00046 SENT ACTION SECSTATE JAN
02

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S E C R E T ABIDJAN 0046

NODIS

FROM ASSISTANT SECRETARY SCHAUFEELE

DEPARTMENT PASS SECRETARY

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, AO, US, IV

SUBJECT: ANGOLA: FURTHER CONVERSATION WITH FONMIN USHER

REF:ABIDJAN 0014

1. AFTERLUNCH TODAY FONMIN USHER AND I HAD FURTHER CONVERSATION
ABOUT ANGOLA. HE REITERATED POSITION THAT MILITARY BALANCE
MUST BE MAINTAINED EVEN IF THAT MEANS THAT THE SOUTH AFRICANS
STAY ON9

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WM USHER SAID ALGERIAN AMBAESADOR HAD VISITED HIM THIS MORNING AND STATED THAT SOUTH AFRICAN INTERVENTION WAS THE CORE OF THE ANGOLAN PROBLEM, IMPLYING THAT IVORY COAST SUPPORTS SOUTH AFRICAN INTERVENTION. USHER SAID HE TOLD HIM THAT GOIC SUPPORTS NO INTERVENTION AND CANNOT ADOPT A POSITION WHICH SINGLES OUT ONE INTERVENER OR ANOTHER. ALL SHOULD GET OUT.

3. ALGERIAN THEN CLAIMED THAT MPLA LEADERS WERE NOT COMMUNIST AND ANGOLA WOULD NOT BECOME A COMMUNIST STATE. USHER SAID HE REPLIED THAT HE DID NOT EXPECT ANGOLA TO BE A COMMUNIST STATE EVENTUALLY BUT BY THE TIME THAT HAPPENS THE EFFECTS OF SOVIET INFLUENCE WILL HAVE ACCOMPLISHED A GREAT DEAL OF "BAD".

SAID THAT THIS ARGUMENT OF PRO-MPLA COUNTRIES CAN BE EXPECTED TO ASSUME GREATER IMPORTANCE AND SHOULD BE COUNTERED SHARPLY AND QUICKLY.

4. USHER SAID HE DID NOT HAVE INSTRUCTIONS FROM PRESIDENT

YET BUT EXPECTED THEY WOULD BE FIRM. HE ASKED ABOUT OTHER COUNTRIES I HAD VISITED AND I GAVE HIM A RUN-DOWN OF MY IMPRESSIONS AS WELL AS NAMING THE OTHER COUNTRIES WHICH I THOUGHT COULD BE COUNTED ON TO SUPPORT POSITION ADOPTED BY IVORY COAST.

5. DRAWING ON MY PAST OBSERVATIONS OF OAU MEETINGS, I REPEATED AHIDJO'S INJUNCTION THAT MODERATES MUST HOLD ON UNTIL

THE END. INSTEAD OF LETTING THE ALGERIANS AND GUINEANS PRESS THE ARGUMENT THAT THE MODERATE POSITION THREATENED THE UNITY OF THE OAU, THE MODERATES SHOULD AGGRESSIVELY POINT OUT THAT IT IS THE OTHER SIDE, UNWILLING TO COMPROMISE, WHICH THREATENS OAU UNITY. USHER AGREED.

6. AT CONCLUSION USHER SAID AGAIN HE EXPECTED TO GO TO ADDIS ABABA WITH FIRM INSTRUCTIONS. GOIC WOULD CERTAINLY PUSH HARD

FOR NONDISCRIMINATORY RESOLUTION ON THE FOREIGN INTERVENTION ISSUE. ON LEAVING, I ONCE MORE ASSURED HIM OF U.S. DETERMINATION TO REMAIN INVOLVED.

SMITH

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TOSEC, POLITICAL SETTLEMENT, INTERVENTION, CAT-A, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, MEETINGS, NEGOTIATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 03 JAN 1976
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ShawDG
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976STATE001363
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: RKUCHEL:AM
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: N760001-0025
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 2
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760188/aaaadagf.tel
Line Count: 112
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN NODS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: NODIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: NODIS
Reference: 76 ABIDJAN 14
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ShawDG
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 23 JUN 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <23 JUN 2004 by izenbei0>; APPROVED <12 OCT 2004 by ShawDG>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: LOCK1
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ANGOLA: FURTHER CONVERSATION WITH FONMIN USHER
TAGS: PFOR, AO, US, IV, SA, MPLA, OAU, (USHER, ARSENE), (SCHAUFLE, WILLIAM E),
To: SECRETARY
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006